Evidenced-Based Interventions to Improve Routine Screening and Testing of Bacterial STIs

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Disclosures



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Learning Objectives

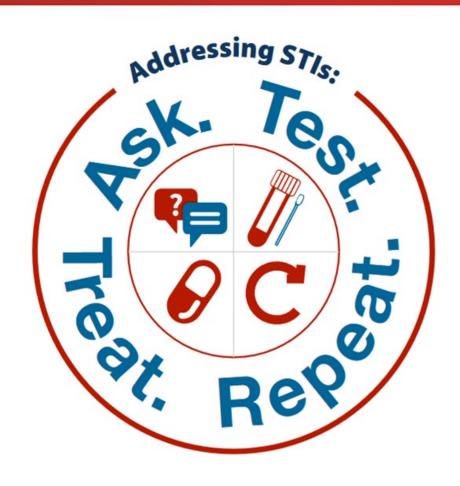


At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Describe the impact of the four evidence-based interventions used by the nine clinics in this study to improve bacterial STI screening and testing in people with or at-risk for HIV
- 2. Summarize ways to implement the selected interventions into other RWHAP or Health Center Program funded clinical care sites
- 3. Recognize tools and products developed by this project team to be used by clinical teams as needed

Sign Up to Receive a Free STI Clinic Starter Kit



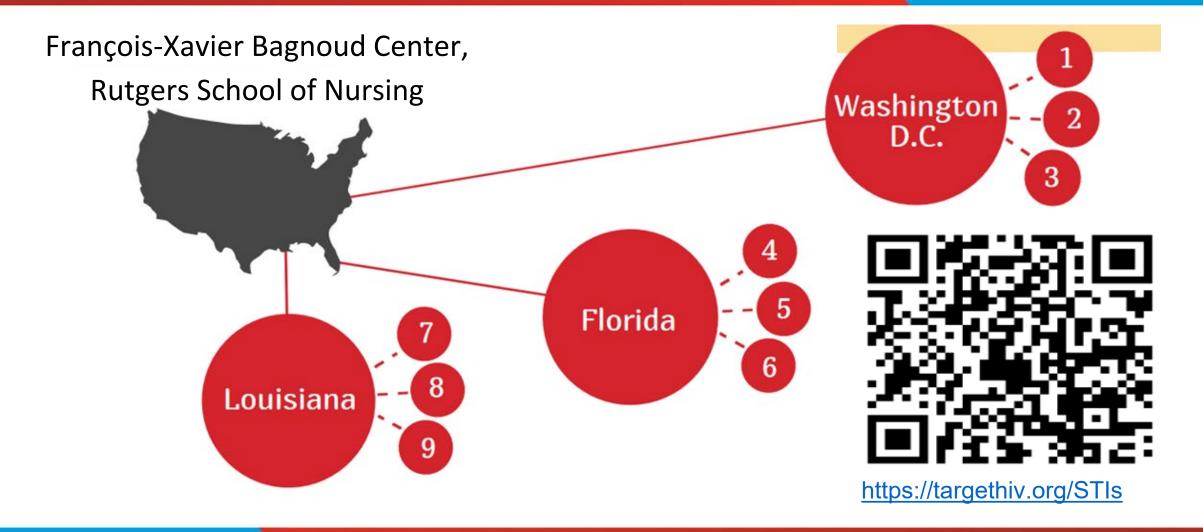




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Improving STI Screening and Treatment Among People with HIV (PWH) or At Risk for HIV





Project DemographicsEstimation Prior to Intervention Implementation



Jurisdiction	Total	MSM with HIV	Adolescent Young Adults* with HIV	Pregnant with HIV	Transgender Women with HIV	People at Risk for HIV
	Est	Est	Est	Est	Est	Est
Florida	2,600	757	128	58	31	0
Louisiana	2,007	277	287	71	6	1500
Washington DC	731	85	70	2	4	90
Total	5,338	1,119	485	131	41	1670

*Those between 18 and 30 years old MSM = men who have sex with men

QR Code: https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0261824

Cullinen K, et al (2021) Improving STI screening, testing, and treatment among people with HIV: A mixed method needs assessment to inform a multi-site, multi-level intervention and evaluation plan. PLOS ONE 16(12): e0261824.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0261824https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0261824



STI SPNS Baseline Assessment*



Qualitative

Clinical Team Member Interview*

•Quantitative:

- Pre-Intervention Data Survey (2016–2017)
- Clinic Workflow Operations Checklist
- STI Screening Readiness Checklist*
- Clinical Team Member Process, Attitudes, & Beliefs Survey*

*Data collected from clinic designated
Change Champion,
Clinical Prescriber,
Clinical Non-Prescriber
(n=27)

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Clinical Team Member Interview: Clinic's STI Care



Resulting Themes

- 1) Cultural competency, knowledge gaps, training needs, barriers, and recommendations
- 2) Clinical barriers to STI care and recommendations
- 3) Non-clinical barriers to STI care and recommendations

Clinical Team Member Process, Attitudes, & Beliefs Survey



Process	Clinical Practice	Respondents (%)
Sexual History Taking	Conduct a consistent, comprehensive sexual history on intake	44
Sexual History Taking	Conduct follow-up sexual histories at acute care visits when symptomatic for an STI	74
STI Testing among Sexually Active PWH	Test for STIs (syphilis, GC/CT for at least 1 anatomical site) at least annually	67
STI Testing among Sexually Active PWH	Test for STIs q 3-4 months (syphilis and GC/CT at least one anatomical site)	18
STI Testing among Sexually Active PWH	Test for STIs if symptomatic for STI	78
STI Testing among Sexually Active PWH	Offer patients self-collection for GC/CT NAATs	75
Patients are brought back to clinic for treatment of a positive STI test result after being tested within	1-3 days	52
Patients are brought back to clinic for treatment of a positive STI test result after being tested within	4-10 days	48

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Clinical Team Member Process, Attitudes, & Beliefs Survey



Clinical Environment	Clinical Environment	Respondents (%)
Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Patient refuses to have provider do NAAT collection (oropharyngeal, rectal, and/or genital)	44
Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Patient refuses to provide urine for NAAT	26
Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Provider discomfort with sexual history taking and specimen collection process	18
Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Supplies for STI testing are not easily accessible in exam room	15
Non-Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Clinic Site less than friendly to LGBTQ+ individuals	26
Non-Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Clinic Site less than friendly to adolescents/young adults	26
Non-Clinical Barriers to STI testing/ treatment	Clinic Site less than culturally component for both LGBTQ+ individuals and adolescents/young adults	37

Cullinen K, et al (2021) Improving STI screening, testing, and treatment among people with HIV: A mixed method needs assessment to inform a multi-site, multi-level intervention and evaluation plan. PLOS ONE 16(12): e0261824. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0261824https://journals.pone.0261824. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0261824

Clinic STI Screening/ Testing Flow



Clinical or Non-Clinical	Indicators	Clinics
Clinical	Providers conduct a sexual history	9
Clinical	Patient asked to provide urine for GC/CT NAAT GU specimen	9
Clinical	Patient self-collects extragenital site GC/CT NAAT specimen(s)	6
Clinical	Provider collect/request extragenital GC/CT NAAT specimen(s)	8
Clinical	Patient satisfaction assessment conducted after visit per clinic policy	8
Clinical	Provider collects a GU CT/GC NAAT specimen	5
Clinical	Providers discusses HIV testing if indicated	7
Clinical	Nurse/MA conduct rapid POC tests as indicated (Pregnancy, HIV, syphilis)	7
Non- Clinical	Waiting Room with visible LGBTQ+ welcoming clinical space indicators	4
Non-Clinical	Waiting Room with visible indicators of adolescent/young adult friendliness	7

STI Screening Clinic Readiness Checklist



Readiness Indicators	Clinics
Staff knowledge of STI screening, testing, diagnosis, and treatment	9
Clinic capacity to increase GC, CT, and syphilis testing	9
Provider time to conduct physical exams for indicators of STIs	9
Provider knowledge to conduct physical exams for indicators of STIs	9
Having the supplies needed for GC, CT, and syphilis testing	9
Working to reduce identified barriers related to STI testing, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up	9
Laboratory testing of extragenital site GC/CT NAAT specimens along with urine/GU testing	8
Policy/procedure for necessary follow-up care/support to patients diagnosed with an STI	8
Walk up appointments for STI testing/treatment for same day	8
Monitor system for STI testing, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up for clinic population(s)	7
Routine STI harm-reduction counseling (condom use, sex with drug use, U = U) with all patients	7

STI Screening Clinic Readiness Checklist



Readiness Indicators	Clinics
Capacity to provide HIV/STI testing/treatment services to partners of people with HIV	6
Having the supplies needed for HIV testing ^a	6
Policies/procedures by clinic staff to allow for maximum reimbursement of STI services provided	4
Process to evaluate patient care satisfaction and/or experiences regarding STI testing and treatment	4
Policies/procedures regarding staff member(s) responsibility for prevention of HIV (for HIV-uninfected patients), GC, CT, and syphilis	3

^a100% of BPHC-funded Health clinics

STI Screening Clinic Readiness Checklist



State/Local DOH DIS services for:	Clinics
Syphilis	9
HIV	9
GC/CT	3

Utilizing a range of media platforms to communicate STI information to:	Clinics
MSM	6
Pregnant Persons	5
Adolescents/Young Adults	4
Persons at Risk for HIV	4
Transgender Women	1

Baseline Assessment Findings



Sexual History Taking

- 44% conduct a consistent, comprehensive sexual history on intake
- 74% conduct follow-up sexual histories at acute care visits when symptomatic for an STI
- Sexual history questions were different at different clinics and even different among some providers within the same clinic

STI Testing

- Among sexually active adolescents and adults with HIV:
 - 67% test for STIs (syphilis and GC/CT of at least one anatomical site) on at least an annual basis
 - 18% test for STIs every 3-4 months (syphilis and GC/CT at least one anatomical site)
 - 78% test for STIs if symptomatic for an STI
 - 59% of report offering patient self-collecting for NAAT GC/CT

STI Clinical Care Evidence-Based Interventions



Sexual Health
Screening



Self Collection Testing



Provider Training



Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators



STI SPNS Final Sample



All planned interventions were implemented in all 9 clinics:

- 1,382 unique individuals consented and included in evaluation
- Mean age 44.6 yrs (range 18-83 years)
- 69% Black, 26% White, 7.4% Latino

7,824 CT/GC NAATs and syphilis tests were completed over course of study

- Marked increase in the number extragenital testing
- Positive results (86% were asymptomatic)
 - 3% positive CT tests
 - 3.1% positive GC tests
 - O 6.6% new syphilis

STI SPNS Project Demographics N=1382 Across 9 Clinics



Sexual Orientation	N (%)
Heterosexual	655 (56)
Same-gender Loving	362 (30)
Bisexual/Pansexual	87 (7)
Something Else	6 (1)
Don't Know	8 (1)
Did not disclose	27 (2)

Identified Gender	N (%)
Male	742 (63)
Female	391 (33)
Transgender Female	14(1)
Transgender Male	8 (1)
Genderqueer	7 (1)
Did not disclose	3 (1)

STI Clinical Care Evidence-Based Interventions



Sexual Health
Screening



Self Collection Testing



Provider Training



Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators



CDC STI Testing Guidelines For PWH



- Screen ALL sexually active PWH for GC/CT and syphilis at the first HIV evaluation and at least annually thereafter
 - MSM with HIV should be screened for GC and CT at appropriate anatomic sites of exposure
- More frequent screening depending on individual risk behaviors
 - For MSM with HIV, screen for GC/CT and Syphilis at 3 to 6-month intervals, including MSM on PrEP if there are risk behaviors or their sex partners have multiple partners.
 - o MSM at risk for HIV may benefit from more frequent HIV screening (e.g., every 3–6 months)

https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/screening-recommendations.htm

Sexual Health History (SHH) Screening

RYAN WHITE CONFERENCE ON HIV CARE & TREATMENT

Recognized Barriers to Completion

- Provider lack of knowledge regarding completing SHH
- Provider assumption regarding patient STI risk
- Time constraints/competing priorities
- Communicating barriers including language, hearing, and vision
- Providers fear a privacy risk/Patients fear a confidentiality break
- Cultural bias resulting in discomfort
- Providers fear of intrusion

https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/sexualhistory.pdf

Palaiodimos L, et al (2020). J Sex Med. 2020 Aug;17(8):1509-1519. doi: 10.1016/j.jsxm.2020.05.004



ACASI-Based Sexual History





QR Code: https://acasillc.com/acasi.htm

Cons

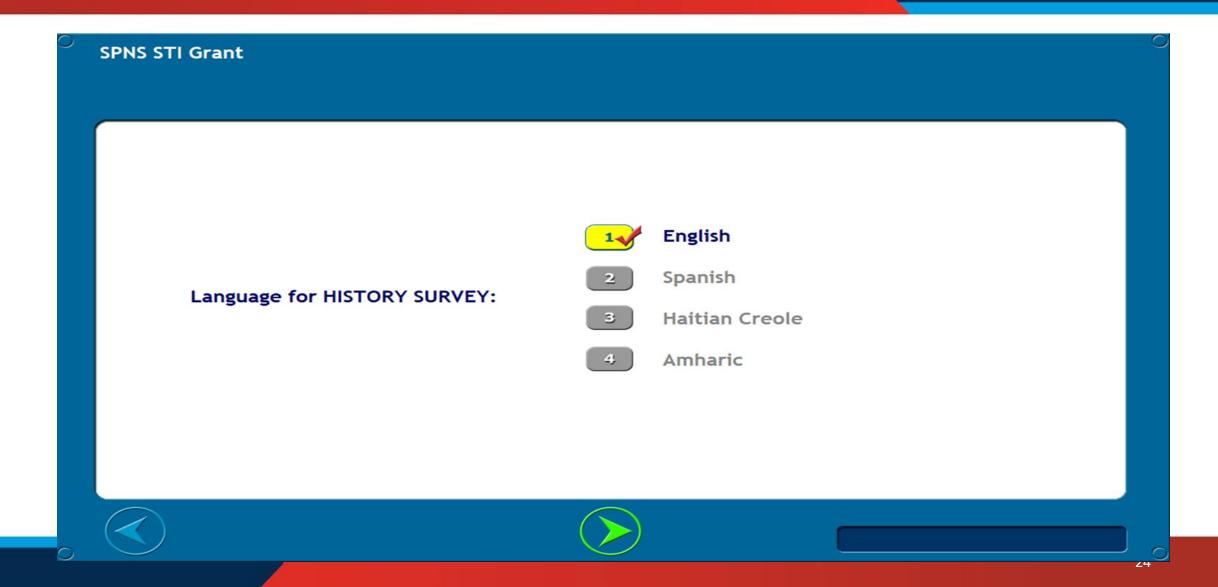
- Separate system that can not interface with EMR
 HL7 issues
- Cost
- Historically Windows based only platform

Pros

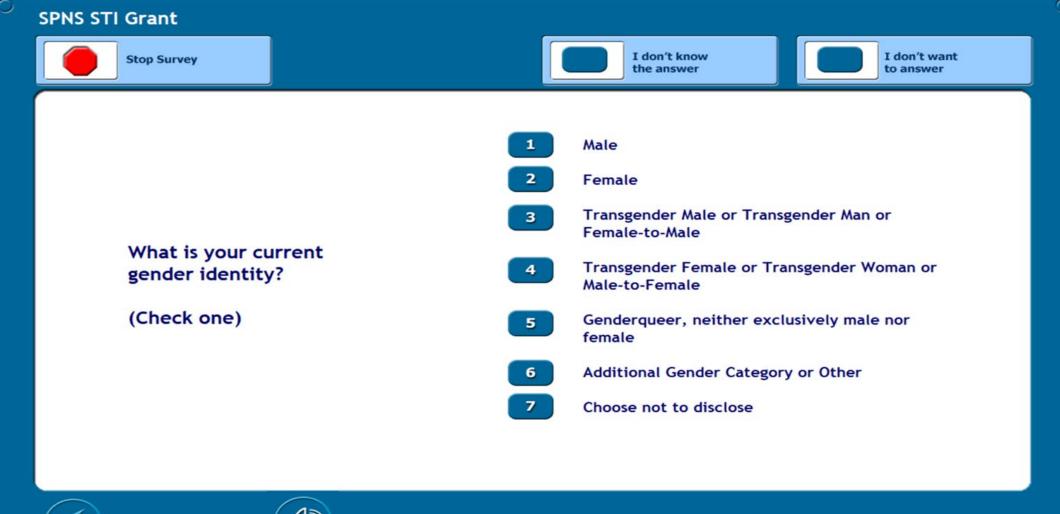
- Highly Effective
- Applicable to various assessment tools
- Over come language, vision and literacy barriers

Other Companies
Lumina Corps© (NOVA)
Westat © Blaise©

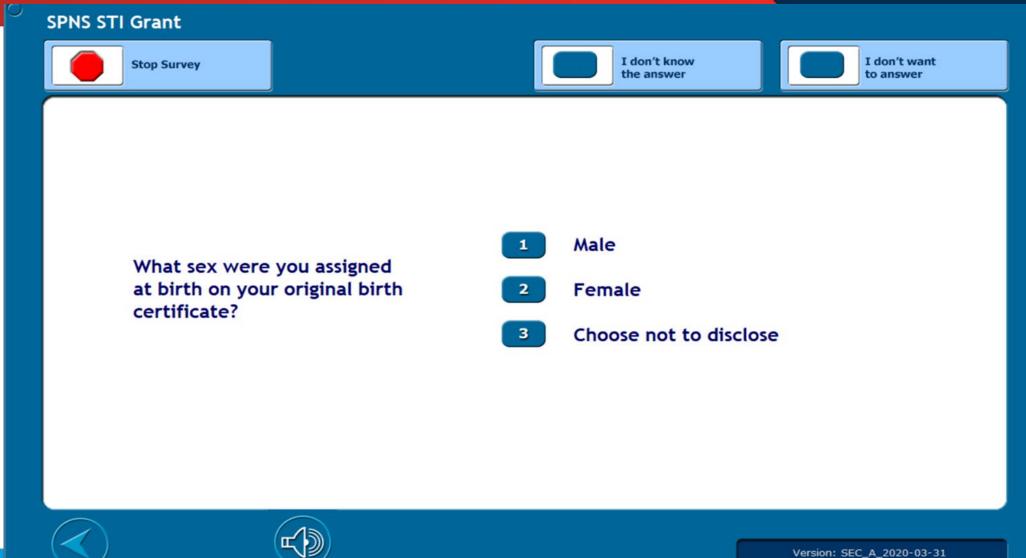




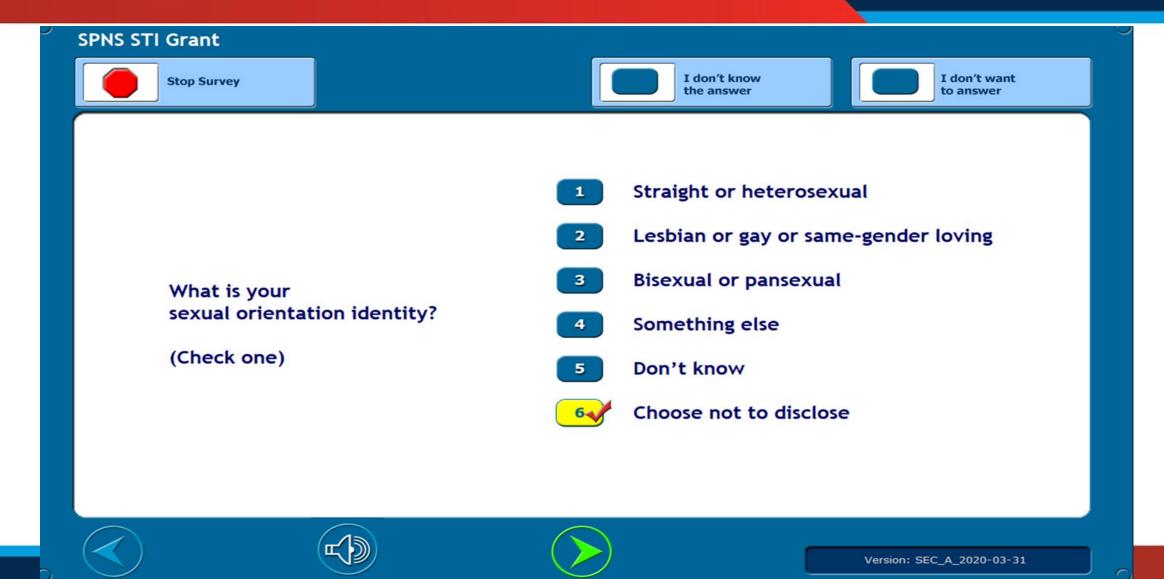




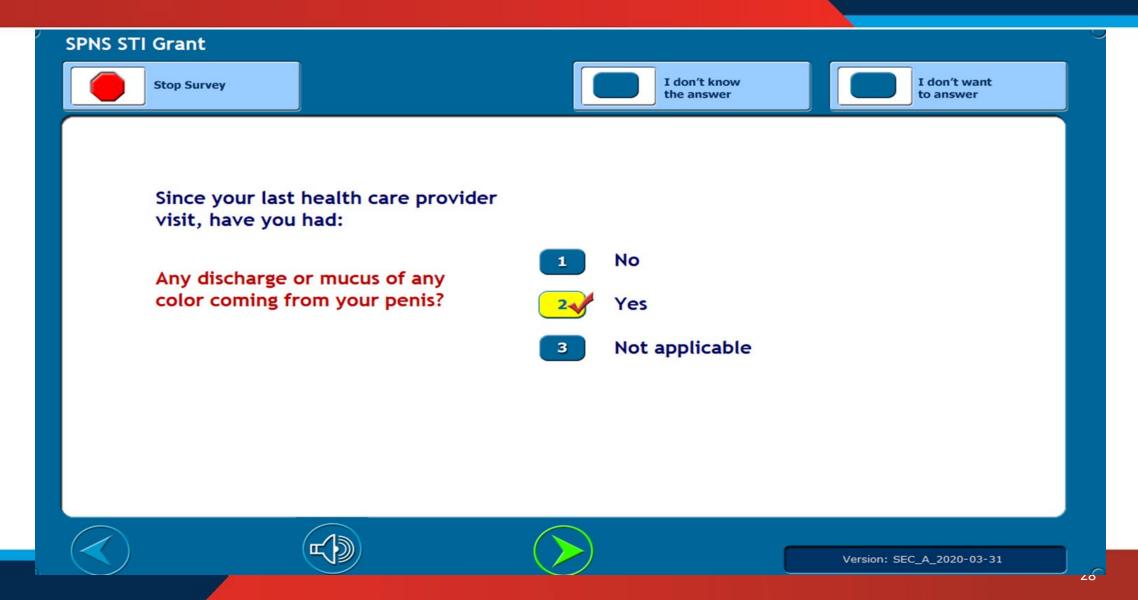




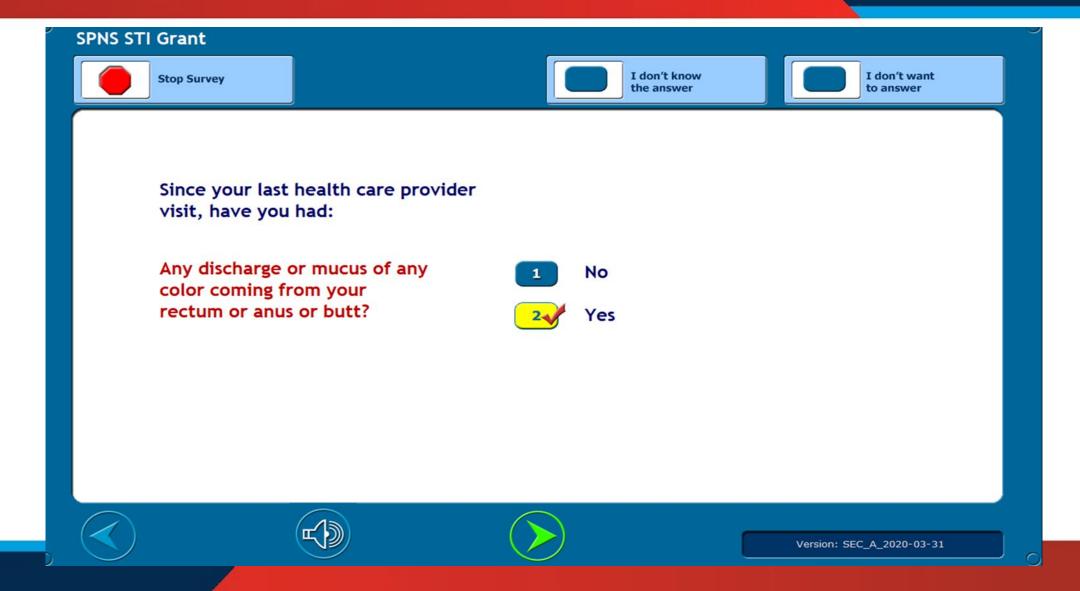




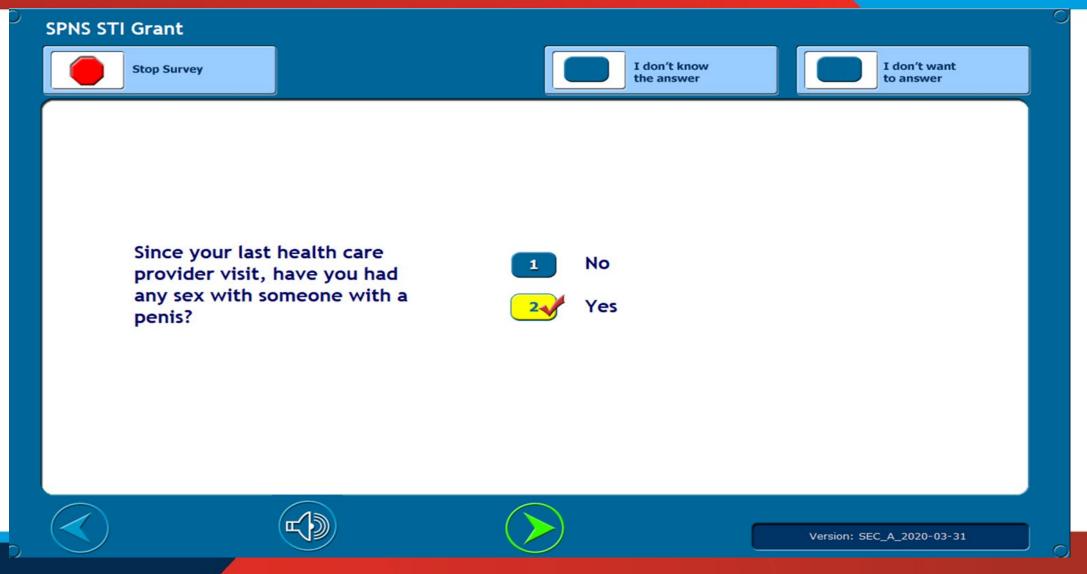




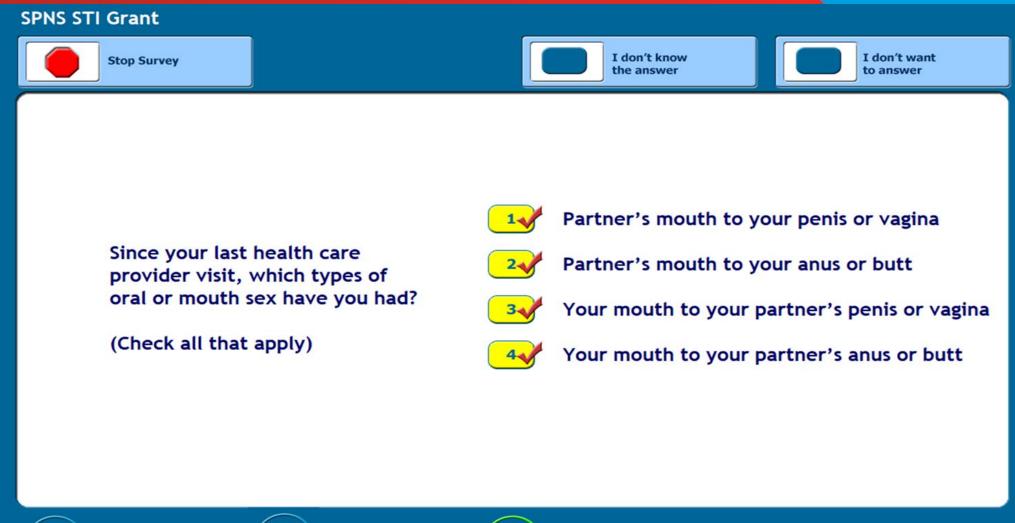












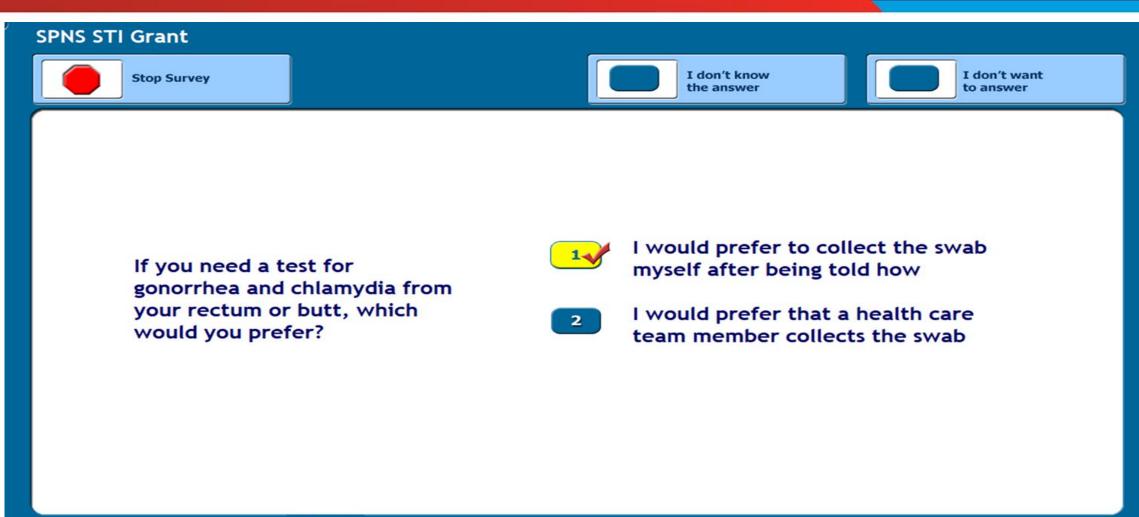


















Completed Survey



You have completed this survey.

Thank you!

Now let your health care provider know you are finished.



Tests Needed







Throat NAAT



Urine or genital NAAT



Rectal NAAT



Syphilis serology







Genital

Printout of Results



PATIENT: 2345617 INTERVIEWER: CSB

Visit Date: December 10, 2020 Site: LA02 LSU-Shreveport

Clinic: (1) HIV primary care clinic

Q_01: What is your current gender identity? (2) Female

Q_02: What sex were you assigned at birth on your original is birth certificate (1) Male

Q_03: What is your sexual orientation identity? (6) Choose not to disclose

SUMMARY:

Tests Needed:

Throat NAAT: (0) NO

Urine or genital NAAT: (1) YES

Rectal NAAT: (1) YES

Syphilis serology: (1) YES

Swab Preferences:

Throat: (2) PROVIDER
Genital (2) PEE IN CUP

Rectum (1) SELF

Printout of Results 2



- Q 04 INTRO: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had:
 - Q_04_01: Any discharge or mucus of any color coming from your penis (2) Not applicable
 - Q_04_02: Any discharge or mucus of any color coming from your vagina (0) NO
 - Q_04_03: Any discharge or mucus of any color coming from your rectum or anus or butt (0) NO
 - Q_04_04: Any burning or pain when you urinate or pee (0) NO
 - Q_04_05: A rash anywhere on your body (0) NO
 - Q_04_06: A sore, even if it does not hurt, on your penis (2) N0t Applicable
 - Q_04_07: A sore, even if it does not hurt, on your vagina (1) YES
 - Q_04_08: A sore, even if it does not hurt, in your mouth (1) YES
 - Q 04 09: A sore throat (1) YES
 - Q 04 10: Swollen, painful lymph nodes or glands in your neck(0) NO
 - Q 04 11: Swollen painful lymph nodes or glands in your groin (1) YES
- Q_05: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had any sex including oral or vaginal or rectal? (1) YES
- Q_06: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had any sex with someone with a penis? (1) YES
- Q_07: How many different people? (3)
- Q_08: Were any of them new sexual partners since your last health care provider visit? (1) YES
- Q_09: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had sex with someone with a vagina? (1) YES
- Q_10: How many different people? (3)
- Q_11: Were any of them new sexual partners since your last health care provider visit? (1) YES
- Q_12: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had any oral or mouth sex? (1) YES
- Q_13_GROUP: Since your last health care provider visit, which types of oral or mouth sex have you had? (Check all that apply)
 - Q_13_01: Partner's mouth to your penis or vagina (1) YES Q_13_02: Partner's mouth to your anus or butt (1) YES
 - Q_13_03: Your mouth to your partner's penis or vagina (1) YES Q_13_04: Your mouth to your partner's anus or butt (1)

Printout of Results 3



- Q 14: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had any vaginal sex, that is someone's penis in your vagina or your penis in someone's vagina? (1) YES
- Q_15: Since your last health care provider visit, have you had any anal or butt sex? (1) YES
- Q 16 GROUP: Since your last health care provider visit, which types of anal or butt sex have you had?
 - Q_16_01: Anal insertive, that is your penis in your partner's rectum or butt (1) YES
 - Q 16 02: Anal receptive, that is your partner's penis in your rectum or butt (1) YES
- Q 17: Since your last health care provider visit, have you used alcohol before having sex? (1) YES
- Q 18: Since your last health care provider visit, have you used marijuana or any other drug(s) before having sex? (1) YES
- Q 19: Since your last health care provider visit, have you received or given money or housing or food for sex? (1) YES
- Q 20: Since your last health care provider visit, with how many different sexual partners did you receive or give money or housing or food for sex? (5)
- Q 21: Has your current or past partner or partners been diagnosed or treated for a sexually transmitted infection since your last health care provider visit? (1) YES
- Q_22_GROUP: What was the infection and treatment? (Check all that apply)
 - Q 22 01: Partner got a shot and took some pills for gonorrhea (1) YES Q 22 02: Partner took some pills only for chlamydia (1) YES

Q 22 03: Partner got a shot(s) once for syphilis (0) NO

Q_22_04: Partner got shot(s) each week for 3 weeks syphilis (1) YES

Q_22_05: Partner got some pills for another infection (0) NO

- Q 22 NONE: I do not know what the infection or treatment was (0) NO
- Q 23: If you have only one sexual partner, does this partner have sex with other people in addition to you? (1) YES
- Q 24: Since you were last seen in the clinic, have you used a male condom? (1) YES
- Q 25 GROUP: For what kinds of sex did you use a male condom? (Check all that apply)
- Q_25_01: Oral sex (1) YES Q_25_02: Vaginal sex (1) YES

 - Q 25 03: Rectal sex (1) YES Q 25 NONE: Not applicable (0) NO

Sexual History Screening

Condensed Sexual History to Assess STI Screening Need	is
What is your current gender identity? Check only one □ Male □ Female	
☐Transgender Male or Transgender Man or Fer	male to Male
☐ Transgender Male of Transgender Malr of Ter	
☐Genderqueer, neither exclusively male nor fer	
□Additional Gender Category or Other	If you would like, please provide additional information regarding
☐ Choice Not to Disclose	your current gender identity
What sex were you assigned at birth on your original bir	th certificate? Check only one
□Male	
□Female	
□Choose not to disclose	
What is your sexual orientation identity? Check only	one
☐Straight or heterosexual	
Lesbian or gay or same sex-gender loving	
☐Bisexual or pansexual	
	u would like, please provide additional information regarding your sexual
	tation identity
□Choose not to disclose	,
Zenose not to disclose	
Since your last health care provider visit, have you had	:
Any discharge or mucus of any color coming from	m your <u>penis or vagina</u> ? YES□ NO□
Any discharge or mucus of any color coming from	m your <u>rectum or anus or butt</u> ? YES□ NO□
Any burning or pain when you urinate or pee?	YES□ NO□
A rash anywhere on your body?	YES□ NO□
A sore on your penis or vagina, even if it does no	ot hurt? YES□ NO□
A sore in your mouth, even if it does not hurt?	YES□ NO□
A sore throat?	YES□ NO□
Swollen, painful lymph nodes or glands in your r	neck? YES□ NO□
Swollen, painful lymph nodes or glands in your g	
Since your last health care provider visit, have you had a	NOT
If "Yes" please turn the page over and continue	my sex including ordinor vaginar or rectals. 125 100
Since your last health care provider visit, have you receiv	ved or given money or housing or food for sex? YES□ NO□
	receive or give money or housing or food for sex since your last
health care provider visit? Please place a number here	

Sexual History Screening 2

How r	nany diffe	erent pa	rtners have you had any type of s	ex?	Since your	last health care provider visit, have	you				
Please place a number here			Used <u>alcohol</u> before having sex? YES□ N								
				Used marijuana or any other drug(s) before having sex? YES□ N							
	you had a	ny new	sexual partner(s) since your last h	•							
visit?				YES□ NO□							
Does your partner(s) have sex with other people in addition to you?					<u>e condom</u> while having any type of		NO□.				
			YES□	NO□ UNSURE□	If Y	ES, what kinds of sex did you use a	male condom?				
						☐ Oral sex	Check all				
			st partner(s) been <u>diagnosed or tr</u>			□Vaginal sex	that apply				
transr	nitted inf	ection s	ince your last health care provide			☐ Rectal sex	,				
				NO□ UNSURE□		☐I don't remember					
	If YES,		s the infection and/ or the treatm		Used a <u>fem</u>	<u>ale condom</u> while having any type o	of sex? YES□	NO□			
	_		partner got a shot and took some		If Y	es what kinds of sex did you use a	female condom?				
	Jd d	_	Partner took some pills for chlamy			☐Oral sex					
	rt a		partner got a shot(s) once for syph			□Vaginal sex	Check all				
	tho		Partner got shot(s) each week for			☐ Rectal sex	that apply				
	Check all that apply		not sure what the infection was h			☐I don't remember					
	eck		pills or took a shot for some infe		Used a dent	<u>tal dam</u> while having any type of se	x? YES□	NO□			
	5		not know what my partner's infec	ction or treatment	If Y	es what kinds of sex did you use a	dental dam?				
		was				☐Oral sex	Check all				
Since			care provider visit, have you :	V50 U 10 U		□Vaginal sex	that apply				
		-		YES□ NO□		☐Rectal sex	ини ирргу				
			<u>Il sex,</u> which is someone's penis in			☐I don't remember					
	-			YES NO	Do any of th	he following apply to you or your pa	artner(s) since yo	ur last clinic			
				YES□ NO□	visit?						
	IT YES V	nich ty	pes of oral or mouth sex have you		☐I keep an	undetectable HIV viral load with a	ntiretroviral thera	py to			
		۸	☐I put my mouth to my partner		prevent my	partner(s) from getting HIV					
	Check all	that apply	☐ I put my mouth on my partne		_	☐My partner(s) keep an undeted					
	eck	at a	☐ My partner put their mouth o	n my penis or	(Jdc	antiretroviral therapy to prevent		HIV			
	ક	th	vagina	/ b	tα	☐My partner(s) uses PrEP to pre	vent HIV				
			☐ My partner put their mouth o		tha	☐I use PrEP to prevent HIV					
				YES□ NO□	all	☐My partner(s) uses PEP when r	needed				
	IT YES,	wnich t	ypes of <i>anal or butt sex</i> have you		Check all that apply	☐I have used PEP when needed					
		= \$	☐Anal insertive, that is your pe	enis in your	Che	☐NONE of these apply to me or	my partner				
		ck all t apply	partner's rectum or butt	artnada nanis in							
		4 0	☐Anal receptive, that is your p	artner's penis in							

your rectum or butt

Outcome of ACASI SHH



STI Test Recommended by ACASI SHH (% of all ACASI completed)

- Syphilis 47%
- GC/ CT Urine/ GU NAAT Test 33%
- GC/ CT Throat NAAT Test 31%
- GC/ CT Rectal NAAT Test 20%

86% were asymptomatic

7,824 CT/GC NAATs and syphilis tests were completed

- Positive results
 - 3% CT tests
 - 3.1% GC tests
 - New syphilis 6.6% tests

Clinic Experience: Answering Questions About Sexual Behaviors on a Computer or Tablet



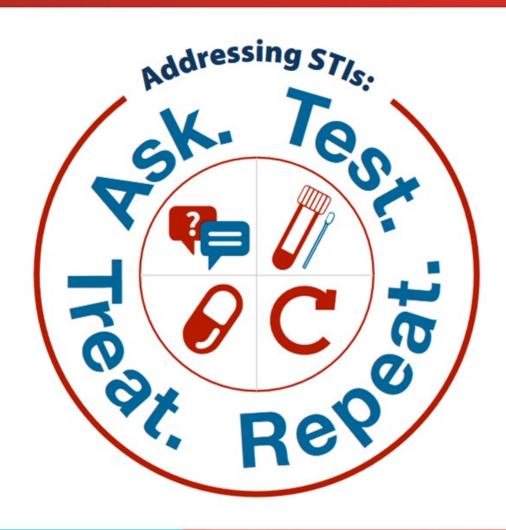
Patient Experience Very Easy 52% Easy 41% Difficult 5% Very Difficult 2% 100 200 400

Providers (n = 18) reported that ACASI positively impacted screening (72%), testing (78%), treatment (44%), and follow-up (55%)

300

Sign Up to Receive a Free STI Clinic Starter Kit







https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/d/1RkPqF4ZAqaIFfY66VdvhaGaOPnSWhSKrDKxvEiiFVN0/viewform?edit_requested=true#settings

STI Clinical Care Evidence-Based Interventions



Sexual Health
Screening



Self Collection Testing



Provider Training



Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators



Patient Self-Collected Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT)



Aultitest Swab Transport Media (STM)

 Patient self-collection has shown comparable sensitivity and specificity to provider-collection in clinical and non-clinical settings for the following specimens:

- Vaginal swabs
- Rectal swabs
- Pharyngeal swabs
- Urine samples
- Acceptability by patients, especially those at risk for STIs is high
- •Providers in this study felt that self-collection of GC/CT NAATs positively impacted testing (72%), treatment (45%), and follow-up (39%)

Dodge B et al (2010) *Int. J. STD AIDS* 21(4), 260-264. Sexton M et al. (2013) J Fam Pract 62(2):70-8.

FDA. May 23, 2019. https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-clears-first-diagnostic-tests-extragenital-testing-chlamydia-and-gonorrhea

Perceived Challenges to Patient Self-Collected Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) Specimens



Challenges

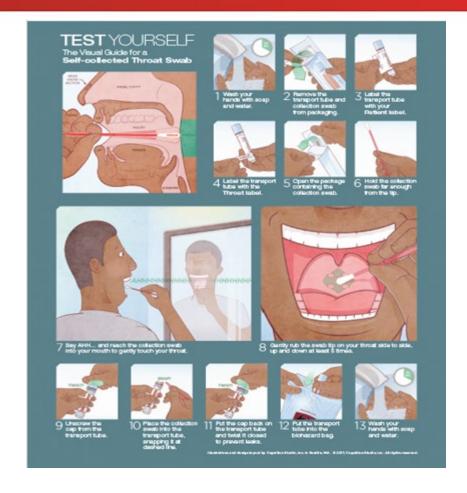
- •Commercial labs disallow patient self-collection of extragenital swab GC/CT NAAT specimens
- •STI testing supplies not always available in clinic
- •Extragenital site GC/CT NAAT testing prior to May 2019 was not FDA approved

Strengths

- •FDA approval of extragenital site GC/CT NAAT specimen testing in May 2019
- •Stocking of STI kits is easy!
- Provider and patient collected NAAT specimens are equally valid and reliable
- Patients empowered to collect their own NAAT specimens

Patient Education: Self Collection of NAAT Swabs





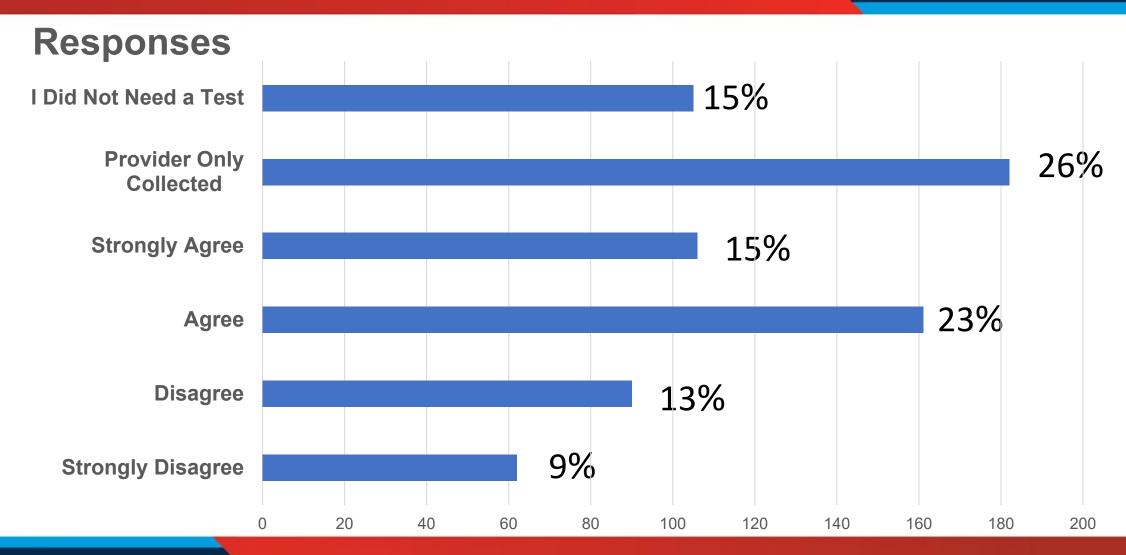




Poster courtesy of the University of Washington Prevention Training Center (http://uwptc.org)

Comfortable Self-Collecting Throat GC/CT NAAT

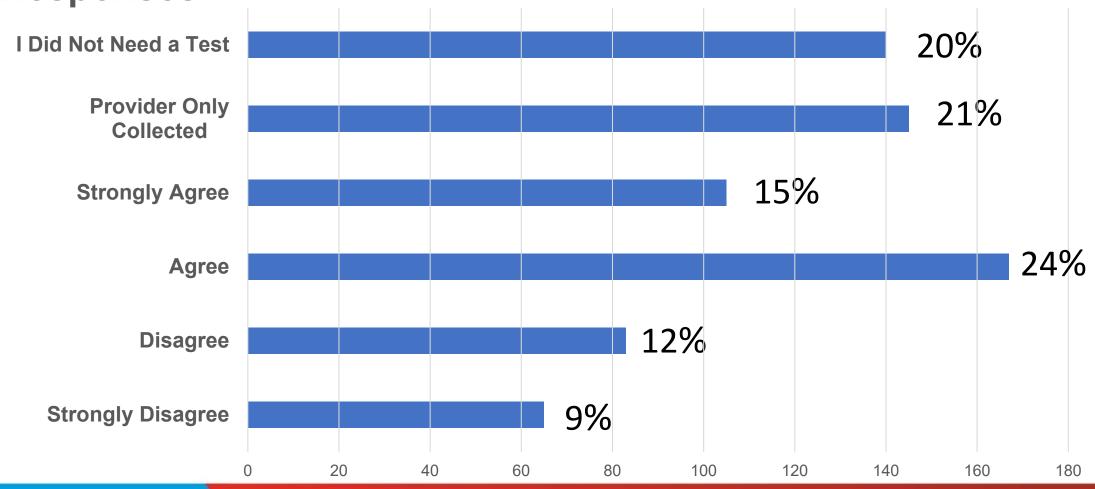




Comfortable Self-Collecting Rectal Throat GC/CT NAAT







Self Testing Experience: Alachua County



- •The majority of patients preferred to selfcollect rectal/vaginal swabs
- More reluctant to self-collect throat swabs
- •81 participants screened for extragenital STIs with 147 labs recommended:
 - 64 participants screened at one visit
 - 17 screened at more than one visit; of those 8 changed from provider-collect to self-collect

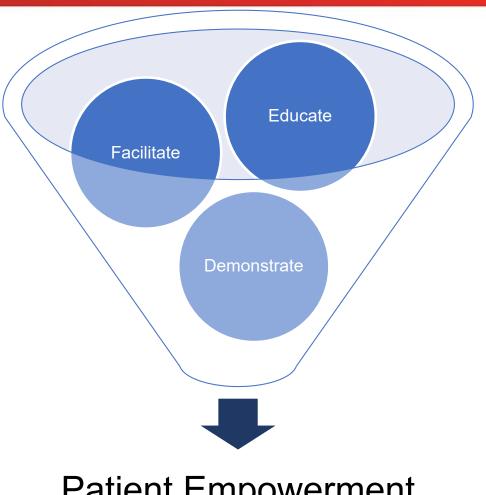
ACASI Ordered Extragenital STI Labs by Specimen Collection Type

Type of Test	Self-Collected	Provider-Collected	Total
Throat	46	47	93
Rectal	43	6	49
Vaginal	5	0	5
Total	94	53	147

DOH Alachua County. 8/5/20-8/23/2021

Person-Centered Care: Self-**Testing Successes**





Patient Empowerment

STI Clinical Care Evidence-Based Interventions



Sexual Health Screening



Self Collection Testing



Provider Training



Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators



Provider Training



- Need and frequency of bacterial STI testing should be based on a clients' risk factors, which requires complete sexual health histories
- Studies have found that sexual health histories as part of routine care are not commonly taken, and even when performed miss essential components
- Barriers include:

Lanier Y et al. (2014) AIDS Patient Care & STDs, 28(3), 113-120.

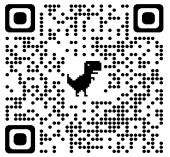
Mimiaga M et al. (2007) Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 34(2), 113–119.

- Lack of provider training on administering sexual health histories
- Lack of provider comfort discussing sexual health histories
- Lack of culturally competent care

Mayer KH, et al. (2012) The Lancet, 380(9839), 378-387. Mimiaga MJ et al. (2009) AIDSPatient Care & STDs, 23(10), 825-835. Wimberly YH, et al. (2006) Journal of the National Medical Association, 98(12), 1924–1929

https://www.liebertpub. com/doi/epub/10.1089/ apc.2013.0328

Provider Training





- Four quarterly trainings provided for all clinical demonstration sites
- Three 90-minute virtual trainings
- One 3-hour virtual training
- Conducted by the National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Center's regional prevention training centers (PTCs)



https://nnptc.org

https://nnptc.org/our-centers.php

Provider Training Topics



- •STI Epidemiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment
- Culturally Responsive Care to Reduce Stigma
- Taking a Comprehensive Sexual History
- Success Stories on Improving STI Care



Training Impact: STI Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Treatment



Epidemiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment (n = 14)

How confident are you that you could?	Mean + SD*	Grand	Cronbach's
How confident are you that you could?	Iviean ± 3D	Mean*	alpha
Discuss shifts in STI/HIV epidemiology in MSM, women, and transgender	2.71 + 0.59	2.76	.89
populations.	2.71 ± 0.39	2.70	.69
Review STI screening and treatment in patients with HIV and at-risk			
patients, with a focus upon newer diagnostics and where treatment or	2.57 <u>+</u> 0.73	_	-
follow-up in patients with HIV is different than in patients without HIV.			
Consider how the pandemic impacts implementation of screening and	2.00 + 0.65		
treatment.	3.00 <u>+</u> 0.65	_	-

Weighted Mean*: 3.23

Providers' Challenges to Addressing Stigma



Frequencies of Challenges in Addressing HIV-Related Stigma	N (%)	
Lack of time needed to adequately address stigma impacting patient health outcomes	17 (21)	
Use of patient preferred/chosen name/pronoun by all staff	12 (15)	
Patient refusal or hesitancy to discuss stigma	12 (15)	
Limitations of EMR (non-inclusive language and/or verbiage related to HIV, sexual identify, gender identity, ethnicity)	7 (9)	
Stigmatizing language on forms (related to HIV, sexual identity, gender identity, ethnicity)		
Not part of my job, so I have not been able to address	7 (9)	
Other (Please specify)	7 (9)	
Understanding what contributes to stigma	6 (7)	
Limited knowledge on how to assess and address stigma	3 (4)	
I have had no challenges in addressing HIV-related stigma.	3(4)	
Total Number Cited	81 (100)	

Training Impact: Culturally Responsive Care to Reduce Stigma



Culturally Responsive Care to Reduce Stigma (n = 43)

How confident are you that you could?	Mean <u>+</u> SD*	Grand	Cronbach's
Tiow confident are you that you could:		Mean*	alpha
Describe how HIV-related stigma and other identity-related factors			
contribute to health disparities and poor health outcomes for people with	3.42 <u>+</u> 0.72	3.36	.94
HIV (PWH).			
Describe 2 culturally affirming and responsive practices when working with	2 25 + 0 74		
individuals from racially and culturally diverse backgrounds.	3.35 <u>+</u> 0.74	_	_
Practice utilizing culturally affirming and responsive language in care	2 20 + 0 76		
delivery for PWH.	3.30 <u>+</u> 0.76	-	-

Weighted Mean*: 3.23

Clinic Experience: Culturally Responsive Care to Reduce Stigma



"Clinic staff works to reduce stigma by setting aside extra time for new clients to build rapport and talk to the client about the reasons why they are being asked certain personal questions." – DOH Alachua County

"Staff members always create a safe space for patients to express how they feel about their visits and what can be done to alleviate problems if there are any." -- DOH Bay County

"Displaying compassion and providing service regardless of age, race, socioeconomic status." -- DOH Orange County

Clinic Experience: Culturally Responsive Care to Reduce Stigma



CLIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS

- 1. Clients have the right to healthcare that is accessible and meets professional standards.
- 2. Clients have the right to courteous and individualized healthcare that is equitable, humane, and given without discrimination as to race, color, creed, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, sex, national origin, source of payment, or ethical or political beliefs.
- 3. Clients have the right to information about their diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment including alternatives to care and risks involved in terms they and their families can readily understand, so that they can give their informed consent.
- 4. Clients have the legal right to informed participation in all decisions concerning their healthcare and the right to refuse treatment, to the extent permitted by law, and to be informed of the medical consequences of their actions.
- Clients have the right to information about the qualifications, names, and titles of personnel responsible for providing their healthcare.
- 6. Clients have the right to refuse observation by those not directly involved in their care.
- Clients have the right to privacy during interview, examination, and treatment.
- 8. Clients have the right to privacy in communicating and visiting with staff.
- Clients have the right to refuse treatments, medication, or participation in research and experimentation, without punitive action being taken against them.
- 10. Clients have the right to coordination and continuity of healthcare
- 11. Clients have the right to appropriate instruction or education from healthcare personnel so that they can achieve an optimal level of wellness and an understanding of their basic health needs.
- 12. Clients have the right to confidentiality of all records (except as otherwise provided for by law or third-party payer contracts) and all communication, written or oral, between clients and healthcare providers.
- Clients have the right to examine and receive an explanation of his/her bill regardless of source of payment.
- 14. The client has the right to know what rules and regulations apply to his conduct as a client.

- Non-discrimination policy on display, updated to include sexual orientation and gender identity
- Using business cards that don't have "HIV" specifically on them
- Using language that makes clients comfortable
- Use of preferred names and pronouns



Training Impact: Taking a Comprehensive Sexual History



Taking a Comprehensive Sexual History (n = 24)

How confident are you that you could?	Mean <u>+</u> SD*	Grand Mean*	Cronbach's alpha
Describe all "5 P's" elements of CDC's comprehensive sexual history.	3.25 <u>+</u> 0.72	3.24	.86
Discuss gender identity, sexuality, and use of correct pronouns.	3.42 <u>+</u> 0.64	-	-
Discuss terminology and jargon specific to the BDSM community.	3.00 <u>+</u> 0.76	-	-
Discuss terminology specific to sexual relationships (i.e. open, closed, polyamory)	3.29 <u>+</u> 0.68	-	-

Success Stories in Improving STI Care (n = 22)

How confident are you that you could?	Mean ± SD*	Grand Mean	Cronbach's alpha
Describe examples of how clinical demonstration sites have improved bacterial STI screening, testing, and treatment.	3.32 <u>+</u> 0.63	3.32	.77
Share barriers to, facilitators of, and lessons learned from the field regarding improvements in STI screening, testing, and treatment.	3.32 <u>+</u> 0.76	-	-

Weighted Mean*: 3.23

Training Satisfaction



Training Topic (Mean + SD)*

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (Items paraphrased)	Epidemiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment (n = 14)	Culturally Responsive Care to Reduce Stigma (n = 43)	Taking a Comprehensive Sexual History (n = 24)	Success Stories in Improving STI Care (n = 22)
The training increased interest in topic.	1.36 <u>+</u> 0.48	1.44 <u>+</u> 0.58	1.59 <u>+</u> 0.89	1.32 <u>+</u> 0.47
The content was applicable to my work.	1.43 <u>+</u> 0.49	1.38 <u>+</u> 0.65	1.55 <u>+</u> 0.89	1.14 <u>+</u> 0.35
I am considering how I could apply information from training in my work.	1.46 <u>+</u> 0.63	1.39 <u>+</u> 0.62	1.59 <u>+</u> 0.89	1.43 <u>+</u> 0.49
My understanding of the subject matter has improved due to training.	1.21 <u>+</u> 0.41	1.42 <u>+</u> 0.58	1.59 <u>+</u> 0.89	1.32 <u>+</u> 0.47
The information was presented in ways I could clearly understand.	1.21 <u>+</u> 0.41	1.33 <u>+</u> 0.60	1.57 <u>+</u> 0.88	1.27 <u>+</u> 0.45
I was satisfied with this training overall.	1.21 <u>+</u> 0.41	1.40 <u>+</u> 0.65	1.61 <u>+</u> 0.97	1.27 <u>+</u> 0.45
Grand Mean*	1.31	1.39	1.58	1.29

Cronbach's alpha: .96 Weighted Mean*: 1.37

Hill, M. et al (2022) Improving sexually transmitted infection screening, testing, and treatment among people with HIV:

A provider training intervention. In Review

Value of Provider Trainings



Help to:

- Normalize STI diagnosis and treatment
- Normalize the conversations that staff and providers are having with clients, as well as with each other
- •Get more people thinking about their sexual health
- Increase conversation about sex
- Reinforce stigma reducing practices



Sign Up to Receive a Free STI **Clinic Starter Kit**









https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/d/1RkPqF4ZAqalFfY66VdvhaGaOPnS WhSKrDKxvEiiFVN0/viewform?edit requested=true#settings

STI Clinical Care Evidence-Based Interventions



Sexual Health
Screening



Self Collection Testing



Provider Training



Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators



Impact of Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators (WCSI)



- There is a higher rate of STIs in PWH vs General Population
- There is a higher rate of PWH that identify as a sexual or gender minority (SGM) vs the general population
- SGM individuals will scan an environment to assess if it is "safe", "friendly" or "welcoming"
- Implementing welcoming clinic space indicators (WCSIs) will improve/increase SGM individuals willingness to engage in care





QR Code 1 Link: https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/10.2105/AJPH.2018.304751

QR Code 2 Link: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2072932/

Chelsea L. et al, 2018: <u>Using Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity to Monitor Disparities in HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections, and Viral Hepatitis AJPH 108</u>, S277_S283, https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2018.304751 Meyer IH. Prejudice, social stress, and mental health in lesbian, gay, and bisexual populations: conceptual issues and research evidence. Psychol Bull. 2003 Sep;129(5):674697. doi: 10.1037/0033-2909.129.5.674. PMID: 12956539; PMCID: PMC2072932.

LGBTQ+ Barriers to Accessing Health Care



- Pervasive cisgender-heteronormative attitude predominating the health care system
- Prevalence of anti-sexual and gender minority (SGM) attitudes in the general society permeates into the health care system
- SGM indiviuals will be impacted by prior negative experience from discriminatory health care practices or prejudicial providers

STI SPNS 12 WCSI



- 1.Gender-neutral bathroom(s)*
- 2. Visible gender and sexual minority inclusiveness in waiting room materials*
- 3.Gender and sexual minority inclusive educational materials*
- 4.A gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation nondiscrimination policy clearly displayed*
- 5. History taking that includes current gender identity and sex at birth inclusive of non-binary identities
- 6.Clinic registration/intake form has a question for client preferred name and pronoun (in addition to legal name)*

- 7. Display materials for community-based affiliations with sexual/gender minority supportive organizations*
- 8.Community advisory board sexual and gender minority members
- 9.All staff training on gender identity diversity and sexual orientation*
- 10.LGBTQ flag in waiting room *
- 11. Transgender flag or symbol in waiting room *
- 12.Acknowledgement of LGBTQ awareness and recognition days/events *

*Evaluated via the ACASI Client Satisfaction Survey

Welcoming Clinic Space Indicators



A gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation NDP policy displayed

Visible LGBTQ+ inclusive materials in the waiting room





Acknowledgement of LGBTQ+ awareness and recognition days/events



LGBTQ+ Flag/ Representation In Waiting Room





LGBTQ+ Flag/ Representation In Waiting Room





Implementation of WCSI



INDICATOR	Baseline	DC01	DC02	DC03	FL01	FL02	FL03	LA01	LA02	LA03	Total	%
Total Implemented	-	11	8	8	12	12	12	11	10	12	96	89
A gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation nondiscrimination policy clearly displayed	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	100
Acknowledgement of LGBTQ awareness and recognition days/events(e.g., Transgender Day of Remembrance, Pride)	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	89
All staff training on gender identity diversity and sexual orientation (> 1 staff member from each CDS)	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	100
Clinic registration/intake form include patient name/ pronoun (in addition to legal documentation such as those with birth name)	8	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	89
Gender and sexual minority inclusive educational materials (gender diverse persons and same-gender couples)	7	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	89
Gender-neutral bathroom(s)	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	100
History taking includes assigned sex at birth, and current gender identity inclusive of non-binary identities	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	100
Visible gender and sexual minority inclusiveness in waiting room materials (magazines, posters, fliers)	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	100

Implementation of WCSI



INDICATOR	Baseline	DC01	DC02	DC03	FL01	FL02	FL03	LA01	LA02	LA03	Total	%
Community advisory board with sexual and gender minority members	6	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	56
Affiliations with CBO SGM supportive organizations – fliers or cards in waiting room with information about these organizations	6	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	7	74
LGBTQ flag (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) in waiting room	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	74
Transgender flag (blue, pink, white, pink, blue) or symbol in waiting room	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	74

Barriers to Implementation of LGBTQ+ WCSIs



- Other organization or system funders/accreditors/ policies/procedures
- Bureaucracy of system (i.e., approval process)
- Finding and purchasing the tools to develop indicators
- Identifying LGBTQ+ CBOs in the area to collaborate with (i.e., rural clinics)
- Persistent microaggression (microinvalidation) that devalues, negates, or nullifies the experiential reality of the SGM person
 - Minimizing the importance of recogonizing sexual or gender identity
 - Avoiding sexual orientation or gender identity assessments
 - Endorsing the need to maintain a heteronormative or gender normative culture to avoid offending "majority" population
 - Denying the extent of cisgender-heterosexism, genderism, homophobic/transphobic propensity of the health care system

Participants Assessment of WCSI



	Heterosexual	LGB	Other*	р	<50 Yrs	≥50 Yrs	р
WCSI (I Noticed, and I Liked)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)		n (%)	n (%)	
Gender Neutral Bathrooms	328(52)	253(40)	45(7)	0.16	259 (70)	112(30)	0.03
LGBTQ+ Inclusive Waiting Room Materials	212(36)	330(56)	45(8)	<.001	281 (75)	94 (25)	<.001
LGBTQ+ Inclusive Educational Materials	217(35)	352(57)	44(7)	<.001	282 (73)	102 (27)	<.001
Posted LGBTQ+ Non-Discrimination Policy	309(45)	331(48)	48(7)	<.001	292(69)	129(31)	0.03
Treated with Respect by Clinic Staff	900(56)	597(37)	102(6)	0.06	644(65)	347(35)	0.29
Registration Selected Pronoun Question	410(53)	317(41)	50(6)	0.05	345(70)	149(30)	0.01
LGBTQ+ Supportive Organization Flyer(s)	285(43)	329(49)	55(8)	<.001	299(70)	129(30)	0.01
LGBTQ+ Flag	239(40.6)	301(51)	49(8)	<.001	245(71)	100(29)	0.01
Transgender Flag	188(39.0)	256(53)	38(8)	<.001	195(72)	75(28)	0.01
LGBTQ+ Awareness Days/Events Promotion	186(38.8)	255(53.2)	38(7.9)	<.001	223(73.6)	80(26.4	<.001
)	

^{*} Includes something else, choose not to disclose, and multiple sexual identities over time

Implementing WCSI IN LA



WCSI	Impact	Total	SGM	nSGM	p-value
WR (Vis)	Positive	807	190/57	118/22	0.003
	Other		143/43	419/78	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		104/73 2/1	339/80 8/2	
GNBR	Positive	710	159/53	150/36	<0.001
(Vis)	Other		139/47	262/64	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		111/80 3/2	208/79 6/2	
EdM (W)	Positive	870	195/59	123/23	<0.001
	Other		138/41	414/77	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		104/75 4/3	343/83 8/2	
NDP(W)	Positive	632	167/60	118/34	<0.001
	Other		113/40	234/67	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		86/76 2/2	176/75 8/3	

Implementing WCSI IN LA



WCSI	Impact	Total	SGM	nSGM	p-value b
SGI (V)	Positive	903	200/57	199/36	<0.001
	Other		149/43	355/64	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		129/87 3/2	318/90 2/1	
SGCB0 (W)	Positive	596	169/66	122/37	<0.001
	Other		97/37	208/67	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		81/84 2/2	160/77 6/3	
LGBTQ (Vis)	Positive	860	193/59	161/30	<0.001
	Other		136/41	370/70	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		102/75 1/1	302/75 4/1	
Trans (Vis)	Positive	860	184/56	136/26)	<0.001
	Other		145/44	395/74	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		113/80 1/1	324/82 5/1	
SGRec (V)	Positive	728	153/51	106/25	<0.001
	Other		149/49	320/75	
	Didn't Notice/ Negative		124/83 1/1	268/84 4/1	

Implementing WCSI IN LA



WCSI	Impact	Total	SGM		nSGM		p-value ^b
Visual	Positive	3300	726/56		565/28		<0.001
Indicators	Other		56344		1446/72		
	Didn't Notice Negative		43076	7/1	1173/81	23/2	
Verbal	Positive	2534	692/69		817/53		<0.001
Indicators	Other		308/31		717/47		
	Didn't Notice Negative		261/85	6/2	614/86	9/1	
Written	Positive	3078	531/60		363/30		<0.001
Indicators	Other		348/40		856/70		
	Didn't Notice Negative		271/78	8/2	679/79	22/3	

Impact of LGBTQ+ WCSI



- Most patients either did not notice the WCSIs, or, if they did, they liked them
- No more than 3% of either group reported "Not liking" (negative) impact from any WCSI
- Providers (n = 18) ranked the three most impactful WCSIs that improved screening, testing, and treatment of GC, CT, and syphilis:
 - History taking includes assigned sex at birth, and current gender identity inclusive of non-binary identities
 - All staff training on gender identity diversity and sexual orientation
 - Gender and sexual minority inclusive educational materials

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https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/d/1RkPqF4ZAqalFfY66VdvhaGaOPnS WhSKrDKxvEiiFVN0/viewform?edit requested=true#settings

Results Overview



- Compared to baseline findings, bacterial STI testing of at-risk patients increased after the ACASI intervention was implemented
- With support and education on specimen self-collection procedures, patients showed greater preference for doing rectal and urogenital selfcollection
- Patients reported predominately, if noticed, LBGTQ+ WSCI had positive impacts
- Provider training made it easier for providers to identify appropriate bacterial STI tests, testing sites, and treatment
- Overall, these 4 interventions were beneficial for identifying asymptomatic STIs through routine screening and testing in these 9 RWHAP funded clinics



IMPROVING STI SCREENING AND TESTING



Acknowledgement



- Rutgers University Team: Veronica Jones (Director), Macsu Hill (Manager), Kathleen Cullinen (Evaluation Coordinator), Peijia Zha (Statistician), Mirna Halawani (Research Assistant), Peter Oates (Consultant), Dominic Stanislaus (Program Assistant), Shanon Mettlen (Fiscal Manager)
- 3 Convener Teams: University of Florida, Louisiana State University Health Science Center New Orleans, Howard University
- 9 Clinical Demonstration Site Teams: Alachua County, Bay County, and Orange County FL DOH Clinics; CareSouth Medical and Dental Center, Southwest Louisiana AIDS Council Clinic, LSUHSC Shreveport ID Clinic; Howard University CIDMAR Clinic, Andromeda Transcultural Health Clinic, Family Medical and Counseling Services Health Center

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